GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

For Immediate Release Thursday, October 29, 2009 Contact: Teri N. Pope (770) 718-3924 office (404) 274-6436 cell

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN HOUSE ON I-85 HOV TO HOT PROJECT IN DEKALB AND GWINNETT

DULUTH, Ga. – The Georgia Department of Transportation announces a public hearing open house to discuss the proposed I-85 HOV to HOT Conversion Project in Gwinnett and DeKalb Counties. The open house will be held Thursday, November 12 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Gwinnett Center located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth. The public hearing will be held in rooms 2AB and 3AB of the Convention Center.

The project proposes to convert the existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes to High Occupancy/Toll (HOT) lanes along I-85 from Chamblee Tucker Road to just north Old Peachtree Road, for approximately 16 miles.

The public will have an opportunity to attend this public hearing open house to ask questions and discuss the project with GDOT representatives. In addition, representatives from the Georgia Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) and the State Toll and Roadway Authority (SRTA) will be in attendance to address questions related to the transit services and tolling that will make use of the I-85 corridor.

"We hope our customers, the users of this portion of Interstate 85, will come and share their opinions with us at the public hearing open house. This is our last meeting on this proposal and we want to hear from the people who use this corridor," said Gerald Ross, DOT Chief Engineer.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment will be available for your review and comment. This public hearing open house is the final meeting on the proposed project. There will be no formal presentation. Email comments may be sent to: hotlanecomment@jacobs.com.

Written statements may be submitted to: I-85 HOV to HOT Project Comments 1718 Peachtree Street, NW Suite 400 Atlanta, Georgia 30309

All statements should be sent by November 23, 2009. The displays at the public hearing open house will be available for ten days for review after the public hearing open house at the office of GDOT District 1, located at 2505 Athens Highway, SE, Gainesville, Georgia 30503 as well as the office of GDOT District 7, located at 5025 New Peachtree Road, Chamblee, Georgia 30341.

After the meeting, all the information will be available on the DOT website at www.dot.ga.gov under the "Public Outreach" section.

Everyone is invited to attend the public hearing open house.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia's economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. Additional transportation revenues are imperative to grow and sustain Georgia's economic vitality and quality of life through the 21st Century. Georgia is the 3rd fastest-growing state in the nation, yet 49th in per capita spending on transportation. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).

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